

3761

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
 3M Innovative Properties Company
 PO Box 33427
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
 651/733 1500

PATENT

Docket No.

48317US033

TO GOVERNMENT ROOM
JUN 25 2002

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 ORIGINALLY FILED
 Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

Amendment Transmittal Letter

Inventor(s): Daniel A. Japuntich et al.
 Application No. 09/837,800
 Filed: April 18, 2001
 Title: FILTERING FACE MASK THAT HAS A NEW EXHALATION VALVE

Group Art Unit: 3761

Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis

- Enclosed is an amendment in the above-identified application.
 The fee for this amendment is computed as follows:

Claims As Amended						
(1)	(2) Claims Remaining After Amendment	(3)	(4) Highest No. Previously Paid For	(5) Present Extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total Claims	27	Minus	** 36	= 0	x \$18.00	= \$0
Independent Claims	1	Minus	*** 3	= 0	x \$84.00	= \$0
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims, if no such fee has been previously paid					\$280.00	\$0
Total Additional Fee For This Amendment →						\$0

** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest No. previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 3, write "3" in this space.

- Please charge to Deposit Account 13-3723 any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) that may be necessary. To the extent any such extension should become necessary it is hereby requested.

Registration Number	Telephone Number
32,900	651-736-7776
Date	
June 12, 2002	

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

Printed Name

Karl G. Hanson

Certificate of Mailing	
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8 I certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231	
Date of Deposit	
June 12, 2002	
Signature	Susan M. Dacko
Printed Name	Susan M. Dacko



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#6/B

Patent
Case No.: 48317US033

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.

Application No.: 09/837800 Group Art Unit: 3761

Filed: April 18, 2001 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis

Title: FILTERING FACE MASK THAT HAS A NEW EXHALATION VALVE

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:	
June 12, 2002	Signed by: Susan M. Dacko
Date	

Dear Sir:

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action mailed March 12, 2002. Please amend this application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 33 and 45 as follows:

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33. A filtering face mask that comprises:

(a) a mask body that is adapted to fit over the nose and mouth of a wearer, the mask body comprising a filtration layer through which inhaled air may pass before being inhaled by a wearer of the face mask; and

(b) an exhalation valve that is attached to the mask body, the exhalation valve allowing air exhaled by a wearer to pass from an interior of the mask body to its exterior without having to pass through the filtration layer, the exhalation valve comprising:

(1) a valve seat that comprises:

(i) a seal surface; and

(ii) an orifice that is circumscribed by the seal surface; and

(2) a single flexible flap that has only one stationary portion and only one free portion and a circumferential edge, the circumferential edge having a first segment that is associated with